

Department of Natural Resources Impact in Portage County

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources aims to excel at working and partnering with the public to protect and manage the state's natural resources while supporting the economy and the well-being of our citizenry.



Did you know?

In 2011, Wisconsin had

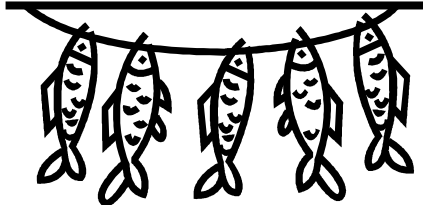
763,384



RESIDENT HUNTERS

In 2011, fishing in Wisconsin had an economic impact of over

\$1.4 billion



In Portage County, **56,385** licenses were sold in 2013-14.

Investments in Recreation

DNR offers a variety of safety classes around the state annually. In 2013, a total of **664 citizens** became **hunter, ATV, boating and snowmobile** certified in Portage County.

In fiscal year 2014, **Hartman Creek State Park** had close to **287,007 visitors** making an **estimated local impact of \$15,082,218**.

Portage County has over **35,759 acres of state owned land** open for public hunting and outdoor recreation.

Community Partnerships

DNR granted a total of **\$18,442** to the Portage County Sheriff Department for ATV, snowmobile and boat patrol activities.

Portage County has **153 public water systems** that the DNR oversees to ensure they deliver safe water. Wisconsin has more public water systems than any other state in the nation.

DNR partnered with **Alliant Energy and Wild Rose fish hatchery** to successfully implement the **Wisconsin River lake Sturgeon restoration program** in the Stevens Point Flowage.

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Snapshot of grants in Portage County

A total of **\$2,308,257** was awarded in Portage County for **water quality, outdoor recreation, fish and wildlife habitat, public health and safety and forestry activities**. A snapshot of projects include: aquatic invasive species education and outreach, trail maintenance and acquisition of land for public outdoor recreational purposes along the Little Plover River.

****Numbers reflect the July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014 time period.**

Forestry Activities

Forestry is one of the **top 10 industries** in Portage County. It produces **\$441.9 million** in economic output, providing **\$112.7 million** in added value to the county.

Since June 2010, **DNR has provided over \$93,000 to private forest owners in the county to assist them in protecting and enhancing their forested lands, prairies and waters.**

Since 2011, **Portage County has received \$53,900 in Urban Forestry Grants** to support new, innovative projects that will develop sustainable urban and community forestry programs.

Portage County has **3,290 acres of private land open for public access** as a result of the tax law programs (Forest Crop and MFL). The Tax Law Programs encourage proper management of timber, wildlife, water quality and the environment through written management plans for a landowner's property.

Five communities in Portage County have received technical assistance from the DNR between 2011 and 2014, which helped them to develop or improve their urban forest management programs.

Since 2005, **over 16,967 cord equivalents of timber products have been harvested from state-owned land** in Portage County. The harvests provided more than **\$523,451 in revenue** to the state and contributed employment opportunities and raw materials to the local economy.

Environmental Cleanup Efforts

DNR approved **cleanups at 260 contaminated properties** resulting in **38 acres** being made available for reuse. DNR staff assures these cleanups provide **long-term protection of public health and environment.**

DNR responded to 34 spills of hazardous materials over the past three years.

DNR provided **\$55,586 in reimbursements** over the past three years for expenses related to the **investigation and cleanup of petroleum contamination** from product storage systems.

DNR provided **\$203,180 in Brownfield Grants** over the past three years to place contaminated properties back into productive use.

Deer Management in Portage County

In 2014, Portage County established a County Deer Advisory Council. One council per county, they provide input and recommendations to the DNR on deer management.

In 2013, a total of 7,529 deer were registered in Portage County with 1,666 harvested during archery deer season and 5,863 harvested during the gun deer season.